

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 DRC-01 /045 W

----- 066809

R 051254Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5909

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, MILI, SCUL, UR

SUBJ: PROPOSED NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT

REF: STATE 23459

1. EMBASSY SEES NO OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED MWC VISIT (REFTEL) AND BELIEVES PUTTING IT INTO THE CONTEXT OF AN EXCHANGE INCREASES THE CHANCES OF SOVIET RECEPTIVITY.

2. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE REFERENCE AT THE END OF THE SECOND PARAGRAPH OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE TO "UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT" BE CHANGED TO "UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT." AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, SOVIETS HAVE MADE CLEAR THEIR OBJECTION TO THE USE OF AIRCRAFT WITH MILITARY MARKINGS FOR EMBASSY SUPPORT FLIGHTS. THEY HAVE ALSO SEEMED SENSITIVE TO ANY MENTION IN OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE THAT SUCH AIRCRAFT ARE OPERATED BY THE AIR FORCE. IF THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY FOR THE NWC GROUP TO TRAVEL IN AN UNMARKED AIRCRAFT, WE COULD INFORM THE MFA ORALLY AT TIME OF PRESENTING AIDE MEMOIRE THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT WOULD BE OPERATED BY AIR FORCE AND WOULD BEAR MILITARY MARKINGS BUT NOT CAMOUFLAGE (A CAMOUFLAGED AIRCRAFT USED ON A SUPPORT FLIGHT APPARENTLY CAUSED THE ORIGINAL SOVIET OBJECTION TO

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MILITARY MARKINGS).

3. WE BELIEVE THIS APPROACH WOULD MAXIMIZE THE CHANCES OF A FAVORABLE RESPONSE ON THIS ASPECT OF THE PROPOSAL. IT WOULD ALSO GIVE EMBASSY A HANDLE ON THE BROADER QUESTIONS OF MOVING AWAY FROM THE SOVIET FIXATION ABOUT NOT ACKNOWLEDGING THE AIR FORCE PROVENANCE OF THE AIRCRAFT USED FOR SUPPORT FLIGHTS.

DUBS

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY VISITS, MILITARY SCHOOLS
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Draft Date: 05 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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